

February 16, 1962

Dr. C.B. van Niel
Hopkins Marine Station
Pacific Grove, California

Dear Kees:

Dr. Walter Bodmer has asked me to write a formal note in support of his application to participate in your course this coming summer. I would recommend this very highly. Bodmer is a visiting postdoctoral fellow from Cambridge where he holds a position in the Department of Genetics. He has already proved himself a very able researcher in population genetics but in the last few years he has become more interested in physiological problems and has gradually turned, via *Neurospora*, to the transforming system in *Bacillus subtilis*. Here he has been doing a splendid piece of work on the kinetics of inactivation of transforming DNA by various nucleolytic enzymes. However, his general background in microbiology is not as broad as it might profitably be and for this reason I have strongly recommended that he take your course just as I recommend him to you.

I will use the same mail to give you notice of the next Westex meeting. I realize that maximizing the convenience of this session for many of the other committee members puts a particular burden of accessibility on you, but I think you would certainly find it interesting to come and I hope you will still find it possible. The multivator has made considerable progress both from the standpoint of its engineering design and the experiments that would be put into it for the detection of soil enzymes. The most promising of these would be based on Rotman's recent work as a prototype of ultra-sensitive detection and the terrestrial analogue is quite promising.

We don't see enough of you but as ever.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

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